

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A cooling fan motor comprising:

a cuplike rotor including a magnet and defining a rotational axis;

~~an impeller blade unit coaxially~~blades fixed to the circumferential surface of the rotor and configured to generate form an impeller unit generating an axial airflow to which a rotational airflow component is imparted, whereby said impeller unit delivers a spiral airflow defining an airflow vector inclined at a predetermined angle to the rotational axis;

a stator disposed facing the rotor magnet;

a frame constituting an outer frame of the fan motor, for retaining the stator;

and

a guard plate covering an outer surface of the frame, disposed on the airflow downstream side of the impeller unit, and either fixed to or formed integrally with the frame, the guard plate ~~including~~ composed of ribs each of which in transverse section has at least one side inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector, the ribs being arranged in a plurality of intersecting ribs extending in at least two directions, the intersections of the ribs being fixed to each other and therein groups to forming a meshwork grid, and each of the ribs, in cross section orthogonal to the rib lengthwise, having in which each rib group intersects at least one side

other rib group in intersection lines inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 1, wherein each cell of the meshwork of intersecting rib groups in grid formed by ribs ~~extending in at least two directions of the guard plate of the fan motor~~ is small enough so that at least a human finger cannot enter.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 1, wherein the guard plate is ~~formed by a plurality of rib groups extending linearly in two directions that are substantially perpendicular to each other.~~

Claim 4 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 1, wherein the guard plate is ~~formed by a plurality~~ meshwork is formed of substantially circular rib groups that are arranged ~~substantially like concentrically~~ circles having a centered point according to a on the rotational axis of the fan motor, and ~~of a plurality of ribs groups that are~~ substantially perpendicular to the ~~concentric circular~~ rib groups and extending radially from the rotational axis.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 1, wherein each of the guard plate ribs in ~~cross-transverse section orthogonal to the rib~~ lengthwise is a right triangle whose inclined side is at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 1, wherein each of the guard plate ribs in ~~cross-transverse section orthogonal to the rib~~

~~lengthwise~~ is a rectangle whose two longer sides substantially parallel said airflow vector.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A case for an electronic or electric device having a cooling fan motor that includes a cuplike rotor having a magnet and defining a rotational axis, an impeller blade unit ~~coaxially~~ blades fixed to the circumferential surface of the rotor ~~and configured to generate form an impeller unit generating an axial airflow to which a rotational airflow component is imparted, whereby said impeller unit delivers~~ a spiral airflow defining an airflow vector inclined at a predetermined angle to the rotational axis, a stator disposed facing the rotor magnet, and that includes a frame constituting an outer frame of the fan motor, for retaining the stator, the case comprising:

a guard plate covering the outer frame of the cooling fan motor, the guard plate disposed on the airflow downstream side of the impeller unit and either fixed to or formed integrally with the case, ~~the guard plate including~~ and composed of ribs each of which in transverse section has at least one side inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector, the ribs being arranged in a plurality of intersecting ribs extending in at least two directions, the intersections of the ribs being fixed to each other and therein groups to forming a meshwork grid, and each of the ribs, in cross section orthogonal to the rib lengthwise, having in which each rib group intersects at least one side other rib group in intersection lines inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 7, wherein each cell of the meshwork of intersecting rib groups in grid formed by ribs extending in at least two directions of the guard plate of the fan motor is small enough so that at least a human finger cannot enter.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 7, wherein the guard plate is formed by a plurality of rib groups extending linearly in two directions that are substantially perpendicular to each other.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 7, wherein the guard plate is formed by a plurality meshwork is formed of substantially circular rib groups that are arranged substantially like concentrically circles having a centered ed point according to a on the rotational axis of the fan motor, and of a plurality of ribs groups that are substantially perpendicular to the concentric circularles rib groups and extending radially from the rotational axis.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 7, wherein each of the guard plate ribs in cross-transverse section orthogonal to the rib lengthwise is a right triangle whose inclined side is at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The cooling fan motor according to claim 7, wherein each of the guard plate ribs in cross-transverse section orthogonal to the rib lengthwise is a rectangle whose two longer sides substantially parallel said airflow vector.

Claim 13 (currently amended): An electric device that includes a case and a cooling fan motor disposed at a predetermined position in the case, the cooling fan motor comprising a cuplike rotor that includes a magnet and defining a rotational axis, ~~an impeller blade unit coaxially~~ blades fixed to the circumferential surface of the rotor and configured to generate form an impeller unit generating an axial airflow to which a rotational airflow component is imparted, whereby said impeller unit delivers a spiral airflow defining an airflow vector inclined at a predetermined angle to the rotational axis, a stator disposed facing the rotor magnet, and that includes a frame constituting an outer frame of the fan motor, for retaining the stator, the case comprising:

a guard plate covering the outer frame of the cooling fan motor, the guard plate disposed on the airflow downstream side of the impeller unit and either fixed to or formed integrally with the case, the guard plate including and composed of ribs each of which in transverse section has at least one side inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector, the ribs being arranged in a plurality of intersecting ribs extending in at least two directions, the intersections of the ribs being fixed to each other and therein groups to forming a meshwork grid, and each of the ribs, in cross section orthogonal to the rib lengthwise, having in which each rib group intersects at least one side other rib group in intersection lines inclined at substantially the same angle as said airflow vector.